



# NEWS RELEASE



## NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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### NEBRASKA'S JUNE 1, 2005 ACREAGE REPORT

LINCOLN, Neb., June 30, 2005 -- Nebraska producers increased area devoted to corn, soybeans, dry edible beans, oats, and sunflowers, while decreasing area devoted to winter wheat (planted last fall), hay, sorghum, millet, and sugarbeets according to USDA's Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. "We continue to see more acres of soybeans planted here in Nebraska with 2005 plantings at a new record high. This has come at the expense of sorghum and alfalfa hay crops which are down from last year," noted Mark Harris, Director, Nebraska Agricultural Statistics.

Nebraska **corn** growers planted 8.4 million acres in 2005, up 2 percent from last year and 4 percent above 2003. Biotechnology varieties accounted for 69 percent of the planted acreage, up from 60 percent last year and the second highest among major corn producing states.

**Soybean** producers planted 5.0 million acres, up 4 percent from the previous year. The 2005 plantings are the highest of record, 1 percent above the record high of 4.95 million set in 2001. Of these acres, 91 percent are planted to biotechnology varieties resistant to herbicides, down 1 percent from last year.

Last fall **winter wheat** was sown on 1.8 million acres, down 50,000 acres from 2004.

**Sorghum** growers planted 390,000 acres, 29 percent less than 2004 and lowest since 1952.

**Alfalfa Hay** acreage for harvest, at 1.2 million, is down 4 percent from last year and the smallest since 1948. **Other types of hay** cut are unchanged. **Dry edible bean** producers planted 180,000 acres, up 50 percent from a year earlier. **Oat** seedings, at 150,000 acres, are up 7 percent from 2004. **Proso Millet** plantings, at 120,000 acres, are down 25 percent from 2004. **Sunflower** acreage of 101,000 is up 45,000 acres from a year ago. **Sugarbeet** plantings of 49,000 acres are down 2 percent from 2004.

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